

[0025] FIG. 11 is a flow chart showing a procedure of image displaying operations in the display control device;

[0026] FIG. 12 is a flow chart showing a procedure of main interrupt operations;

[0027] FIG. 13 is a flow chart showing a procedure of VDP interrupt operations;

[0028] FIG. 14 is a flow chart showing a procedure of synchronous interrupt operations;

[0029] FIG. 15 is a flow chart showing a procedure of timer interrupt operations; and

[0030] FIG. 16 shows an explanatory diagram of display examples on rotatory reels and the liquid crystal display device.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0031] Explanation will be made of an embodiment of a gaming machine according to the present invention.

[0032] [Basic Configuration of Gaming Machine]

[0033] The gaming machine according to an embodiment of the invention comprises following constituent elements, that is, game result display means for providing a predetermined display relating to a game result, game value providing means for providing a game value advantageous to a player when a predetermined game result is displayed on the game result display means, and display control means for controlling the display of the game result display means.

[0034] Here, the “predetermined display” relating to the game result means gaming effect, notification of game information, notification of a game result, etc.

[0035] The game result display means comprises first display means, second and third display means provided, respectively, in front of the first display means when the gaming machine is viewed from a front side thereof. The second display means and the third display means are provided in one-piece construction. The first display means is provided as a unit separated from the second and third display means so as to be spaced by a predetermined distance from the second and third display means other than the first display means.

[0036] The second display means has a transparent display unit for transparently displaying a display of the first display means, and the third display means has a display shielding unit for shielding the display of the first display means. Here, the number of such transparent display units or display shielding units is not especially limited but the units may be provided by one, two, three or any number. Further, how to arrange these units is not specifically restricted but various layouts of the units may be considered, including arrangement of the units by three in a column, by three in a row, and by three obliquely. The display shielding unit may be provided so as to bridge over a plurality of transparent display units. In this case, the display shielding unit can be arranged to have a surface area larger than that of the transparent display unit. The display shielding unit is designed to be controllably shifted to either a state in which the display of the first display means is shielded or a state in which the display of the first display means is transparently displayed.

[0037] In the gaming machine according to the embodiment of the invention, the display control means comprises first display control means for controlling the display of the first display means, second display control means for controlling the display of the second display means, and third display control means for controlling the display of the third display means.

[0038] The gaming machine according to the embodiment of the invention further comprises game start command means to be operated by a player and game start means for starting the game on the basis of an output of the game start command means. The gaming machine may further comprise winning combination determination means for determining a predetermined symbol combination as a ‘winning combination’ each time the game start means is operated, in which case a game result may be displayed on the basis of the winning combination determined by the winning combination determination means. The gaming machine according to the embodiment of the invention comprises game result deriving means for deriving a game result according to player’s operation, in which case a display of the game result display means is controlled by the display control means based on an output of the game result deriving means.

[0039] The gaming machine according to the embodiment of the invention includes winning combination selection means for selecting one or more winning combinations from a plurality of winning combinations on the basis of the output of the game start command means, in which case the display control means is operated based on an output of the winning combination selection means.

[0040] An image displayed on the first display means under control of the first display control means may be superposed on an image displayed on the second display means under control of the second display control means, thereby displaying a gaming state.

[0041] Here, the first and second display means may be provided as separated units as spaced by a predetermined distance from each other.

[0042] In addition, the first and second display means may be provided in one-piece construction.

[0043] The first display means includes a plurality of symbol display units for variably displaying one or a plurality of images, which are capable of stopping.

[0044] The second display means has a transparent display unit for displaying a symbol displayed on the symbol display unit as associated with an area of the symbol display unit of the first display means. Here, the number of such symbol display units is not specifically limited but the units may be provided by one, two, three or a desirable any number. In addition, the number of symbols displayed on the symbol display unit is also not limited but the symbols may be provided by one, three in a column, three in a row, three obliquely or by any number. The second display means may be provided so as to bridge over a plurality of symbols. In the latter case, the second display means can be arranged to have a surface area larger than that of the first display means.

[0045] Also the gaming machine according to the embodiment of the invention is provided with forward illumination means for illuminating the first display means from the front side of the gaming machine and backward illumination